

REMARKS

In the above identified office action the examiner has objected to claims 12-17 because of certain noted informalities. Applicant has changed the dependency of claim 12 so that it now depends from claim 10, and as such this should obviate the objection.

Claims 1-18 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by the patent to Boerger. Applicant has amended the claims so that they now distinguish over Boerger and has now claimed that each region of the individually identifiable regions on the template is at least partially defined by lines marked on a sheet to provide a visual indication of the outline of the region which is now being defined as being rectangular. Further, the material of the template is now recited as being translucent. Thus the area occupied by an image can be determined when the template is placed over the image.

This structure allows the template to be used to physically place originals in the correct position on the copier or scanner window. The original is positioned against the underside of the template at the desired position within the selected region of the template and held in intimate contact with the template as the template edges are moved to abut the frame around the copier or scanner window. The template is then carefully peeled away leaving the original in the desired position on the copier or scanner window ready for copying. This technique can be used for both reducing or enlarging and is also useful to produce realigned (rotated) copies for example to "straighten-up" poorly aligned images on an original.

Further the apparatus disclosed in Boerger does not allow the visual indication of the outline of the region with respect to the image. This is achieved in the present invention by having lines marked on the template to at least partially mark the boundaries of each region. The image can then be moved with respect to the template to visualize the copy produced by the copying machine in particular if there are borders or margins for the image in the produced copy. In practice this means that with the present invention the template can be placed over the image to be enlarged or reduced and the position of the image as it will appear after copying can be seen. Thus the desired outcome can be achieved by moving the image to be centered or offset on the page as desired. In addition the amount of border area can be directly seen and a different scaling chosen to achieve the desired result. By contrast Boerger only gives reference points on two sides and a direct representation of

the image as it will appear is not provided.

None of these features, the rectangular shape of the region, which region is defined by lines marked on the sheet, and a translucent template, is described nor suggested by Boerger. As a result applicant believes that the claims now recite a patentable invention. Boerger does teach a bidirectional measuring device 32 as shown in FIG. 4; however, this bidirectional measuring device is not a rectangular shape, nor is there a region defined by marked lines on the sheet. Further, Boerger does not have a template such as that envisioned here, i.e. translucent so that it can determine the area of an image when placed over the image. The template noted by the examiner, i.e. element 12 of Boerger, cannot be placed over an image for determining an area occupied by the image. Accordingly, Boerger does not teach the enlarging or reducing template of the subject invention.

The present invention also enables the enlarging or reducing factor to be more easily determined by the marking of the factor on the template. With Boerger, the factor must be read from the top and side and one of these factors chosen if they are not the same. This can lead to errors in the selection of the enlarging or reducing factor in Boerger especially if the image is not rectangular, for example circular. In the present invention, the selection of the enlarging or reducing factor is made easier and errors reduced by the visualization of the produced copy from the template itself.

Another advantage of the translucent template is that it can be used with copying machines in which the orientation of the copying area is effectively "landscape" as opposed to "portrait". Some copying machines use a "landscape" orientation when using A3 paper. The template of this invention can be used in this situation by placing it upside down over the image to change the orientation. This allows the template to be used with this type of machine to enlarge to A3 for example.

Yet another advantage of the present invention is that the template can be readily copied itself on to transparent translucent material to produce a new template.

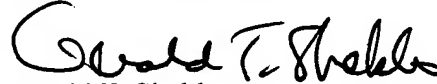
Applicant hereby requests reconsideration and reexamination thereof.

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With the above amendments and remarks, this application is considered ready for allowance and Applicant earnestly solicits an early notice of same. Should the Examiner be of the opinion that a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of the subject application, he is respectfully requested to call the undersigned at the below-listed number.

Respectfully submitted,

WELSH & KATZ, LTD.



Gerald T. Shekleton

Registration No. 27,466

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WELSH & KATZ, LTD.

120 South Riverside Plaza

22nd Floor

Chicago, Illinois 60606-3913

Telephone: 312/655-1500